

# TARGETED EVALUATION STUDY: CENTRAL PIMA EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## PROJECT PURPOSE

The purpose of the current project funded by First Things First (FTF) is to conduct a targeted strategy evaluation to examine the extent to which the Central Pima Early Childhood Professional Development strategy, and the Communities of Practice (CoP) model specifically, is successfully designed and implemented, and advances desired outcomes.

## WHAT WILL THE COUNCIL LEARN?

**The strengths** of the CoP strategy as designed and implemented;

**The cost-effectiveness** of the CoP strategy and other related strategies as compared to their value;

**How strategies do (or do not) work together** to meet the needs of early childhood professionals living in Central Pima; and

**The resources and/or efforts** that may be needed to expand or replicate the CoP model.

## EVALUATION STUDY QUESTIONS

### QUESTIONS FOCUSING ON THE NEEDS OF THE EARLY CHILDHOOD WORKFORCE IN CENTRAL PIMA

- ❖ How does the Early Childhood Professional Development strategy, as funded and implemented in Central Pima, meet the needs of current and prospective early childhood professionals?
- ❖ Does the Early Childhood Professional Development strategy, and the CoP model in particular, target the appropriate population to meet professional development needs?
- ❖ In what ways does participation in an FTF funded CoP help early childhood professionals develop improved competencies to provide high quality experiences for children?



### DATES AND DELIVERABLES

#### April 10, 2013:

Evaluation Status  
Presentation-McREL

#### January - July, 2013

Data Collection and  
Analysis-McREL

#### September 2013:

Final Evaluation Report  
delivered to the Central  
Pima Council-McREL

#### September 2013:

Final Evaluation  
Presentation to the Central  
Pima Council-McREL

### QUESTIONS FOCUSING ON CENTRAL PIMA PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

- ❖ Does the strategy's community-based professional development CoP model — as designed and implemented — align with PD best practices and FTF standards?
- ❖ What is the specific contribution of the Communities of Practice (CoP) model within the larger set of early childhood professional development strategies funded in Central Pima?
- ❖ In what ways does the Early Childhood Professional Development strategy, particularly the CoP model, contribute to early childhood system building in Central Pima?
- ❖ In what ways does the CoP model, in combination with other Early Childhood Professional Development strategies funded by the Central Pima region, (e.g. Quality First, non-T.E.A.C.H., T.E.A.C.H. and REWARD\$), strengthen the regional Early Childhood workforce?